CLAIMS

- Anionic coloring agents characterized in that they comprise at least one spacer arm bound to the structure of said coloring agents.
- 2. Anionic coloring agents of claim 1 characterized in that they comprise the following formula:

Where:

 $C_{\mathtt{A}}$ is an anionic coloring agent comprising at least a cromophore group; and

 $\ensuremath{B_{E}}$ is said spacer-arm, which has the following chemical structure:

$$- (X - R - Z)$$

where:

X is a direct link or a group having the formula $-S(0)_s$, wherein s is 0, 1 or 2; $-NR_1-$, wherein R_1 is hydrogen or a $C_1 C_{10}$ alkyl group;

R is a $C_{1-}C_{10}$ straight or branched alkylene group;

Z is a polar group;

R is an integer equal or higher than 1.

3. Anionic coloring agents according to claim 2, characterized in that said chromophores are selected from azo, anthraquinone, formazane, dioxazine, and/or ftalocianine, eventually metallized. 4. Anionic coloring agents according to claims 1 and 2, characterized in that said spacer arm corresponds to the formula:

$$-(CH2) - Z$$

where:

n is an integer bewteen 1 and 10; and Z represents a group selected among halo, amino, cyano, hydroxyl, carboxyl, carboxamide, and their N alkyl, dialkyl derived from C_1 - C_{10} , and sterified carboxyl.

5. Anionic coloring agants according to claims 1 and 2, characterized in that said spacer arm corresponds to the formula:

$$-$$
 NY $-$ (CH₂)_n $-$ Z²

Where:

Z' is hydrogen or a group selected from halo, cyano, hydroxyl, carboxyl, carboxamide, and their N alkyl and dialkyl derived from C_1 - C_{10} , sterified carboxyl with C_{1} - $_{10}$ alkyl, -SR²-, where R² is hydrogen or C_{1-10} alkyl; and

N is an integer bewteen 1 and 10; anf

Y es hydrogen or an alkyl group or C₁₋₁₀ hydroxi alkyl.

6. Anionic coloring agents according to claim 5, characterized in that said spacer arm corresponds to the following structure.

- NY -
$$(CH_2)_n$$
 - NR_1, R_2 .

Where:

Y represents hydrogen, hydroxi alkyl or a group of C_{1-10} alkyl; N is an integer between 1 and 10; and

 R_{1} and R_{2} either represent hydrogen or a $C_{\text{1-10}}$ alkyl group.

7. Anionic coloring agents according to claims 1 and 2, characterized in that the spacer arms comprise the following structure:

- NY -
$$(CH_2)_n$$
 - NR_3 - $(CH_2)_2$ - X

Where:

Y represents hydrogen, hydroxi alkyl or a C_{1-10} alkyl group; X is a $-COOR_4$, $-CONH_2$, -CN or $-SO_3H$ group;

N is an integer between 1 and 10; and

 R_3 and R_4 either represent hydrogen or a C_{1-10} alkyl group.

8. Anionic coloring agents according to claims 1 and 2, characterized in that the spacer arms comprise the following structure:

$$-$$
 NY $-$ (CH₂)₂ $-$ W

Where:

Y represents hydrogen, hydroxi alkyl or a C_{1-10} alkyl group; W is a group selected from $-S-SO_3R_6$; where R_5 and R_6 either represent hydrogen or a C_{1-10} alkyl group.

- 9. Anionic coloring agents according to any of the claims above, characterized in that they comprise more than one spacer arm.
- 10. Coloring compositions characterized in that they comprise at least one anionic coloring agent according to any of the claims above.
- 11.Coloring compositions according to claim 10, characterized in that they comprise, moreover, coloring agents without said spacer arms.
- 12. Use of anionic coloring agents according to claims 1 to 9, characterized in that they are used for the dyeing of substrates selected from fibers or fabrics including cotton, regenerated cellulose, nylon and/or wool.
- 13. Use of anionic coloring agents according to claims 1 to 9, characterized in that they are used for the dyeing of substrates selected from leather, cardboard or paper.
- 14. Use of coloring compositions according to claims 10 to 11, characterized in that they are used for the dyeing of substrates selected from fibers or fabrics including cotton, regenerated cellulose, nylon and/or wool.
- 15. Use of coloring compositions according to claims 10 to 11, characterized in that they are used for the dyeing of substrates selected from leather, cardboard or paper.

- 16. Substrates characterized in that they have been dyed according to claims 1 to 9.
- 17. Substrates characterized in that they have been dyed using the coloring compositions according to claims 10 and 11.